



***To provide pay, personnel, and passenger transportation services to DOD personnel and their families.***

**COMMANDING OFFICER  
A. P. CORNETT**

We are already nearing the midpoint of FY2005. It is hard to believe the PN/DK rating merger is less than a year away. During Captains Calls over the last year many people have asked how the merger will affect the future of the rating and how we are preparing for the merger. There are only two things we can be certain of and that is the rating will get smaller and advancement will get tougher.

The PS rating will have at least 2500 fewer billets than the current PN and DK ratings combined. The 2500 billets were identified as savings for the PSD Afloat (formerly PAPA) initiative. There will be more mergers and manpower saving technologies as well. The only thing we can hope for is that the technology will be well vetted, tested and up and running smoothly before the manpower disappears.

As the ratings merge, get smaller and the billets move from ship to shore, advancement will become much more competitive. Those Sailors with warfare pins will have an obvious advantage. Those Sailors who have worked on a small boat or at a small full service PSD or CSD will have an advantage since they have had to do it all. And those Sailors that have initiative and are life long learners and who already try to learn all they can about pay/personnel also have an advantage.

If you are not already training as a group, cross-training and planning for the merger, now is the time to

## U. S. Navy Personnel Support Activity, Pacific

### January – March 2005

start. I will not mandate an organizational structure because as I have learned one size does not fit all in our network. But I do believe the OICs can learn from each other and apply best practices. We have very active study groups in some PSDs, we have the IDEFO model in Pearl Harbor, we have the new Team Concept in Yokohama, and over half of our PSD/CSDs are so small that they already do it all.

I challenge each OIC, SEA, CPO, PN and DK to discuss the impending merger often within your own PSD/CSD and to brainstorm on how you can best be prepared. Our YNs will also be going through a merger soon, so they should keep their eyes and ears open to what is happening around them. If you haven't read *Who Moved My Cheese*, then please read it, it will help you understand and deal with the change around you. We have to shift long standing paradigms and break down walls to communicate effectively amongst ourselves. We have to value what each one contributes to the current team and build a new team. I believe this is best done within the confines of your PSD or CSD using the talent you have onboard. If you try something and it doesn't work, then try something else.

Once the ratings are merged our customers will have high expectations. They will not care if you were previously a PN or a DK. They will expect the same or even better service. In order to remain credible you must be able to answer their questions about pay and personnel entitlements regardless of your previous rating or we must create an environment so if you don't know the answer you know who to ask without sending the customer on a scavenger hunt for the right answer, giving them the wrong answer or sending them away without an answer; all unacceptable.

The merger is a window of opportunity for you all. You have the option to pick a new rating if pay and personnel is not something you enjoy or if your EAOS is in the window you can leave the Navy early to pursue other goals, or IF you decide to stay you know now what you must do to prepare to be competitive. You can ask what PSA or PSD/CSD is doing to help you, but what are you doing to help yourself. You can begin to study; form study groups, and lobby to set up more training and cross-decking in your own PSD/CSD. My goal is for each of you to be successful, to advance, and to stay Navy. I want to reward and keep the best performers, because I believe it is essential to our success. Soon our Chief Petty Officers will be filling Division Officer Billets at sea. The lines between what officers and enlisted do will continue to blur. As our CNO stated in his Guidance for 2005, "We must become a better educated, better trained and better compensated, but smaller workforce in the future." Every PSA Pacific Sailor has the potential to be a part of that future. So I challenge you again; OIC, what are doing to enable your Sailors success for the future? SEA/CPO, what are you doing to prepare your Sailors for success in the future? Sailor, what are you doing to prepare yourself for advancement? The PSA staff will give you the freedom to train and organize in a manner that suits you, provide contract support where it makes sense and assist you in any way they can to help you meet your goals while you meet your mission. I will continue to demand your honor, courage and commitment to your profession while providing courteous and considerate service to our number one customer, EVERY SAILOR AND HIS/HER FAMILY.

**COMMAND MASTER CHIEF  
CMDM(SS/SW) BOB CHENIER**

I hope that each of you is enjoying the start of another year here in the PSA Pacific network. We are very busy as usual and are starting to see the fruits of some of our labors come to fruition. We have contractors in some of our Dets to perform functions so that we can move some of our Sailors and civilian employees to other functions where they are needed. We are steadily moving some of our travel claim processing function to a our consolidated processing center here in Yokosuka. And, we are utilizing NSIPS-Web in all of our Detachments (even though we are having some problems with it still).

We started off the year with recognition of our top Sailors and civilians in the network. To close out the calendar year, Petty Officer Fetuga in Misawa, Petty Officer Jackson in Pearl and Mr. Mori in Yokosuka garnered the top honors for October to December 2004. Congratulations to each of them and to all who were nominated by their respective detachments.

We also received 9 nominations for our Sailor of the Year in the PSAPAC network. I would like to congratulate the following personnel for being nominated by their Chief's Mess and OICs:

PN1 Gianan	Misawa
PN1 Espree	Atsugi
PN1 Martinez	Guam
PN1 Giron	Sasebo
DK1 Tindle	Chinhae
PN1 Ortiguerra	Pearl Harbor
PN1 Willis	Okinawa
DK1 Sun	Yokosuka
PN1 Roxas	Iwakuni

We brought four candidates, Petty Officers Ortiguerra, Willis, Sun, and Roxas, to Yokosuka for our 2nd annual SOY competition. The competition was fierce and each of the four represented their detachments well. We could only pick one though and our SOY for CY 2004 in the PSAPAC network was PN1 Willis.

We kept Petty Officer Willis with us in Yokosuka so that she could compete at the CNFJ SOY competition the following week. I

had the pleasure of being one of the 9 CMCs that judged that competition and, again, the competition was fierce. Petty Officer Willis came in as the 1st Runner-up. Let me put that into perspective. She is the number two Sailor in all of the CNFJ AOR. Our SOY is an outstanding Sailor and we are all very proud of her.

I would like to personally thank each of you that volunteered to go TAD to help support the victims of the Tsunami disaster. In case, you did not know, we had Sailors in Utapao and Bangkok, Thailand and others in Singapore. Their efforts showed the citizens of the region and the entire world that our Navy is always there to lend a hand. They were all excellent examples of the "Fighting Spirit" of our Navy that we recite in our Sailor's Creed.

Lastly, ever wondered why they call it a "Wardroom?" Check out the latest version of Naval Traditions at the end of this newsletter.

Sailors Always,  
CMC

**PSA PACIFIC SOY  
GLADYS L. WILLIS  
PERSONNELMAN FIRST CLASS  
UNITED STATES NAVY**



PN1 Willis was born in 1976 in Thomasville, Georgia. She is a 1995 graduate of Taylor County High School and a 2002 graduate of

University of Maryland University College (AA in Management Studies). Petty Officer Willis is currently enrolled with University of Maryland University College working towards her Bachelor of Science Degree in Management Studies. Her projected graduation date is August 2005.

PN1 Willis enlisted in the United States Navy July 1995 and attended Basic Training at Recruit Training Center Great Lakes, Illinois. Her first assignment was Personnel Activity Detachment Dam Neck,

Virginia from 1996-1999 where she advanced to Third Class Petty Officer. Her next assignment was Personnel Support Activity Detachment Guam from 1999-2002 where she was advanced to Second Class Petty Officer and completed her Associates Degree in Management Studies. While assigned to Personnel Support Activity Detachment Guam, PN1 Willis was the Receipts and Transfer Section Supervisor and served as the Fundraising Officer for the Island-wide Navy Ball Committee, earning her first Navy Achievement Medal. Following that tour of duty, Petty Officer Willis reported to Personnel Support Activity Detachment, Okinawa Japan where she was advanced to First Class Petty Officer. She served as the Transportation Officer for Okinawa and is currently the Receipts Section Supervisor and PRA supervisor. Her current collateral duties include Morale, Welfare and Recreation President, Command Career Counselor and Family Care Plan Coordinator. She also volunteers monthly with Higa Elementary School, Kadena Elementary School and Bob Hope Elementary School.

Her decorations include two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, three Good Conduct Medals, two National Defense Service Medals, and five Overseas Service Ribbons.

Petty Officer Willis has two school age children from her previous marriage- Christopher and Alexandria Edmond. They currently reside with her in Okinawa Japan.



**DK2 DELOSSANTOS AND DK2  
BARBOSA PARTICIPATED IN  
CLEANING UP NAF ATSUGI,  
JAPAN.**

## NEW BORN BABIES

Our PSA Pacific family continues to grow. We want to congratulate:

DK2 Bennett and Junko on the birth of their baby girl, Aysha Sakora on 14 December.

YN3 Bragg gave birth to her baby girl, Zion on 19 December.

PN2 Lamour gave birth to her baby girl, Lea Kiana on 31 December.

Mrs. Maria Rosko gave birth to her baby girl, Isabella Maya on 16 February.

## HAILS & FAREWELLS

Welcome aboard:

DK1(SW) Sides to PSA Pacific  
PN1(SW) Warlick to CSD Atsugi  
PN2 Sprinkle to PSD Pearl Harbor  
DK3 Smith to PSD Pearl Harbor  
PN2 Conley to PSD Pearl Harbor  
DK3 Mattone to PSD Pearl Harbor  
PNSR Pedro to PSD Pearl Harbor  
PN2 Hawthorne to PSD Pearl Harbor  
PN3 Limbach to PSD Pearl Harbor  
PN3 Bohr to PSD Pearl Harbor

Farewell to:

PN2 Saintpeter to CVN  
SEAOPDET, WA  
YN1 Satcher to Fleet Reserve  
DKC(SW) Cardenas to PSD Port Hueneme  
DK1 Richardson to VFA 147  
DK1(SW/AW) Dejesus to USS FORT McHENRY  
PN2(SW) Brock to PAPA Det San Diego  
PN1(SW) Doran to Fleet Reserve  
PN1 Johnson to USS STENNIS  
PN2 Thomas to VAQ 133  
PN3 Reddick to USS ESSEX  
DK1 Bangui to Retirement  
DK2 Guiracocha to VP 10  
PN2 Asuncion to VP 9  
YN2 Highley to USS FORT McHENRY

## PSA PACIFIC SELECTS PEOPLE OF THE QUARTER

U.S. Navy Personnel Support Activity, Pacific recently selected their People of the Quarter for the 4th quarter, 2004 and People of the

Year for 2004. Congratulations to the following personnel:

SSOQ -DK1(SW) Adekumisi Fetuga  
PSD Misawa  
JSOQ - PN3 Jeffrey Jackson  
PSD Pearl Harbor  
COY - Mr. Tetsuya Mori  
PSD Yokosuka

SSOY - PN1 Gladys Willis  
Okinawa  
JSOY - YN2 Michael Bennett  
PSD Pearl Harbor  
COY - Mrs. Maria Ruiz  
PSD Misawa

Congratulations to all nominees.



## APPRECIATION FOR PSA PACIFIC AND PSD YOKOSUKA'S SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

U.S. Navy Personnel Support Activity, Pacific Staff and PSD Yokosuka personnel spread a little Christmas cheer to 70 children in the Persons with Disability Welfare Center in Yokosuka along with Santa Claus who handed out Christmas presents and sang songs.

PSA Pacific and PSD Yokosuka received a Letter of Appreciation from Mayor Hideo Sawada of Yokosuka. The letter was presented by Chief Toshikazu Suzuki, accompanied by Assistant Managers Akira Ichikawa (Director of Persons with Disabilities Welfare Center), Naoshi Yamaoka and Mineo Koyama from Persons with Disabilities Welfare Division Yokosuka City Hall.

The Mayor expressed Yokosuka's appreciation for the volunteer assistance U.S. Navy Personnel Support Activity, Pacific provided the Persons with Disabilities Welfare Center in Yokosuka. The Mayor was grateful to the many U.S. Navy

personnel, civilians and family members who recently dedicated their time and energy to the playground revitalization project at the Disability Welfare Center in Yokosuka, spearheaded by CMDCM Bob Chenier.

## CHANGES IN CONSULAR FEES

Effective 8 March 2005, the Schedule of Fees for Consular Services will change. Of the five new/changes to the consular fees, two of them are likely to impact our customers:

- The security enhancement surcharge of \$12, to be added to passport fees;
- The security enhancement surcharge of \$45, to be added to immigrant visa fees

The \$12.00 surcharge for passport fees must be collected for all regular fee or tourist passports that will be mailed and received by the Embassy or Consulate on or after 8 March. For planning purposes, all passport applications without the \$12.00 surcharge must be mailed to the Embassy/Consulate by 1 March. All applications received on or after 1 March 2005 must include the \$12.00 surcharge. Locations that require longer mailing times (i.e., Diego Garcia) should adjust the collection date earlier if necessary to ensure the fee is paid for applications received by the Embassy/Consulate on or after 8 February.

Members may personally apply for their regular fee or tourist passport at the Embassy/Consulate on or before 7 February 2005 to avoid the surcharge.



## CHIEF SURVIVES JOURNEY TO U.S.

By Petty Officer 2nd Class Benjamin Keller  
Pacific Navigator Staff



For 14 days, he baked in the sun with his knees tucked to his chest, dehydrated and hungry - packed like a sardine in a small boat with other Vietnamese

searching for refuge from their communist enemy. Having narrowly survived the elements of the open sea and multiple pirate raids, this 13-year-old boy was rescued from the sea and brought back to health in a Thai refugee camp in 1981.

Sailors in the U.S. Navy all have different stories that brought them to the sea service, but few as gut-wrenching and emotionally stirring as Chief Petty Officer Marvin Truong's journey to don the uniform.

Growing up in a hostile environment in Saigon, Vietnam, Truong's parents in 1981 decided he would be the one person in the family of seven they could afford to send away in hopes of escaping the dangers they faced at home.

"They chose for me to go, because if I did not leave the country I would have to serve in the Red Army - the communist army," explained Truong, who now works at Personnel Support Detachment Guam.

That was when he boarded a boat barely large enough to cram the 76 passengers onboard. Powered by one small motor, they crept along for two days before a boat of 20 Thai pirates accosted their vessel. "We expected to go to Malaysia, but on the way there we met a Thailand pirate," said Truong. The pirates did their best to terrorize the Vietnamese passengers before leaving them at the mercy of the sea with no food or water.

"They raped the women and beat the men," explained Truong "After

that, they damaged the boat engine. Then we just floated for the next 12 days."

With neither compass nor engine, they did not expect to survive to see landfall, Truong said. In fact, some passengers died. "We had seven people die of thirst and no food, and we had to throw their bodies overboard," Truong said. "It was extremely sad." After a total of two weeks at sea, they were finally rescued by a Royal Thai Coast Guard ship and taken to refugee camps, where Truong spent more than two years.

The most severe struggle was over, but Truong's insurmountable journey had not yet ended. He said he was given the option to start a new life in Canada, Australia or the United States. The hope for opportunity and freedom steered his course to the U.S.

In Portland, Ore., he enrolled in the 10th grade not knowing any English and he finished high school in the English Secondary Language program. He then spent two years studying at Grossmont College in El Cajon, Calif. Once again, the notion of opportunity filled Truong's sail. "I decided to join the Navy because they offer a variety of jobs I could pick from," explained Truong. There, he found a home.

As he continued his journey through the ranks, his story never surfaced among his peers until he made chief petty officer at Naval Station San Diego. "When we were in our chief initiation, we all had to tell our story about where we came from and how we got here," he said. "Everyone was very surprised when they heard my story."

Not much else was said about it until his fellow chiefs surprised him at that 2003 Khaki Ball by presenting him a "Life Achievement Award" for the struggles he endured to get to where he is today.

"I was so surprised," said Truong. "It was wonderful." With his wife of 10 years, Truong said he forges ahead, prepared to overcome any obstacle as his great journey continues.

## TSUNAMI RELIEF EFFORTS.

Thanks to all who volunteered on very short notice to help in the aftermath of this catastrophic event. PNCM Macias and his team performed superbly as they stood up a Joint Reception Center (JRC) to track, manage, and assist over 962 transients in Singapore on their way to assist in HA/DR efforts. Congratulations on a job well done!

Singapore:

PNCM Macias	PSD Diego Garcia
PNCS Tolentino	CSD Singapore
PNC Bussolini	PSD Seoul
DK1 Florida	PSD Guam
PN1 Leafa	PSD Sasabo
DK1 Rodrigo	CSD Singapore
DK1 Sides	PSA Pacific
SK2 Julian	PSA Pacific
OS2 New	PSD Sasabo
PN2 Pagute	CSD Atsugi
DK3 Smith	PSD Pearl Harbor
Mrs. Goh	CSD Singapore
Mr. Pintor	CSD Singapore

Utapao:

YNC(SW) Walls PSA Pacific

Bangkok:

PNC Poblete PSD Misawa

## NAVAL TRADITIONS

Naval Traditions from the CMC.

Why is it called the "Wardroom?"

In the early part of the eighteenth century, there was a compartment aboard British ships below the "great cabin," called the "wardrobe." It was used for storage of valuable articles taken from prizes. The officer's staterooms were near. When the wardrobe was empty, particularly when outward bound, the lieutenants met there for lounging and meals. In time the compartment was used entirely as an officer's messroom, and the name was changed to wardroom. Such was the designation of the lieutenant's messroom when the United States Navy came into being.

So, for you first class petty officers, since you are Chiefs in training, why do they call it the Goat Locker?